

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of selecting a pay per view program to be transmitted to a program receiver, the method comprising:
 - a. obtaining a schedule of pay per view programs at the program receiver, each of the pay per view programs having a title and a plurality of transmission times;
 - b. generating a menu comprising the titles of at least one pay per view program, based on the schedule;
 - c. providing the menu to a display device for display to a user;
 - d. receiving from the user a selection by title of the pay per view program from the menu to be received by the program receiver; and
 - e. the program receiver determining a potential transmission time of the pay per view program to be received by the program receiver based on the plurality of transmission times in the schedule of pay per view programs.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
 - f. determining if an availability status of a content delivery path is available at a predetermined time prior to the potential transmission time;
 - g. if the availability status of the content delivery path is available at the predetermined time prior to the potential transmission time, requesting transmission of the pay per view program at the potential transmission time on the associated transmission channel; and

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

h. if the availability status of the content delivery path is not available at the predetermined time prior to the potential transmission time, repeating (e) – (g) until the availability status of the content delivery path is available.

3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein (f) comprises,

- i. determining if a program is scheduled to be recorded during the potential transmission time;
- ii. if a program is scheduled to be recorded during the potential transmission time, determining that the availability status of the content delivery path is not available;
- iii. if no programs are scheduled to be recorded during the potential transmission time, at the predetermined time period prior to the potential transmission time:

- ~~(1)~~ displaying a change channel request to change to the associated transmission channel for the potential transmission time;
- (2) waiting a predetermined wait for response time for a response to the change channel request from the user;
- (3) if the response to the change channel request received from the user is positive, determining that the availability status of the content delivery path is available;
- (4) if the response to the change channel request received from the user is negative, determining that the availability status of the content delivery path is not available; and
- (5) if the response to the change channel request is not received from the user within the predetermined wait for response time for receiving the change channel request, determining that the availability status of the content delivery path is available.

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

4. (original) The method of Claim 3, wherein there are a plurality of content delivery paths each content delivery path having an associated availability status, and wherein (f) is repeated until it is determined that a respective content delivery path has an availability status of available or that all content delivery paths have an associated availability status of not available.
5. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, further comprising:
 - i. receiving the pay per view program at the potential transmission time.
6. (original) The method of Claim 5, wherein (i) further comprises displaying a screen overlay to prevent viewing of the pay per view program during receipt of the pay per view program.
7. (original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:
 - j. storing the pay per view program; and
 - k. making the pay per view program available for viewing.
8. (original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the pay per view program is stored on a hard disk drive.
9. (original) The method of Claim 7, wherein (k) further comprises displaying a notification that the pay per view program is available for display.

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

10. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein (d) further comprises receiving a payment authorization from the user.
11. (currently amended) A method of recording and accessing a pay per view program using a personal video recorder, the personal video recorder being accessible by a user, the method comprising:
- a. receiving a schedule of pay per view programs at the personal video recorder, each of the pay per view programs having a title and a plurality of transmission times;
 - b. the personal video recorder selecting one of the pay per view programs to be transmitted to the personal video recorder and selecting a potential transmission time from the plurality of transmission times corresponding to the selected pay per view program;
 - c. receiving the pay per view program at the potential transmission time, free of the user's request;
 - d. recording the transmitted pay per view program; and
 - e. after recording the transmitted pay per view program:
 - displaying a user interface on a display device coupled to the personal video recorder, the user interface including a title of the recorded pay per view program; and
 - allowing the user to access the recorded pay per view program.

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising after (b) and before (c):
- (1) displaying a change channel request to change to the associated transmission channel for the potential transmission time at a predetermined time prior to the potential transmission time;
 - (2) waiting a predetermined wait for response time for a response to the change channel request from the user;
 - (3) if the response to the change channel request received from the user is positive, proceeding to (c);
 - (4) if the response to the change channel request received from the user is negative, modifying the potential transmission time by selecting another of the plurality of transmission times corresponding to the selected pay per view program; and
 - (5) if the response to the change channel request is not received from the user within the predetermined wait for response time for receiving the change channel request, proceeding to (c).
13. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein (c) further comprises displaying a screen overlay to prevent viewing of the pay per view program while transmitting the pay per view program to the personal video recorder.
14. (original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the pay per view program is recorded on a hard disk drive.
15. (original) The method of Claim 11, wherein allowing the user to access the recorded pay per view program further comprises receiving a payment authorization.

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

16. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein (b) comprises selecting the pay per view program to be transmitted to the personal video recorder based on a user profile.
17. (canceled)
18. (previously presented) A personal video recorder for receiving a pay per view program, the pay per view program having a schedule including a plurality of transmission times and channels associated with the plurality of transmission times, the personal video recorder comprising:
- at least one content delivery path for receiving the pay per view program;
 - an external interface configured to facilitate communications between the personal video recorder and a provider of the pay per view program; and
 - a controller connected to the content delivery path and the external interface, the controller configured to receive the schedule for the pay per view program via the external interface, to select one of the plurality of transmission times corresponding to when the at least one content delivery path is available, and to receive the pay per view program on the at least one content delivery path by tuning to the channel associated with the selected transmission time.
19. (original) The personal video recorder of Claim 18, further comprising a storage device connectable to the controller for storing the pay per view program.
20. (original) The personal video recorder of Claim 19, wherein the storage device is a hard disk drive.

Art Unit 2623
Serial No. 10/035,763

Reply to Office Action of: July 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0882

21. (original) The personal video recorder of Claim 20, further comprising a viewer control interface connectable to the controller, the viewer control interface configured to transmit signals to the controller indicating a viewer selection of the pay for view program.